

WICKED FLIES INTO SINGAPORE AND CASTS ITS SPELL! Singapore to be enchanted as Broadway's biggest blockbuster opens tonight at Marina Bay Sands

Singapore, 12th December 2011–WICKED, the international Broadway hit musical, celebrated its Singapore premiere on Friday 9 December at the Grand Theater, Marina Bay Sands. WICKED is "one of the most successful shows in Broadway history" (The New York Times) and now it is Singapore's turn to be enchanted by the award-winning musical and be part of the 30 million people worldwide who have been spellbound by this production.

When WICKED opened on Broadway, it worked its magic on critics and audiences alike. Winner of 35 major awards including a Grammy® and three Tony Awards®, WICKED is the untold story of the witches of Oz. Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the Land of Oz, one born with emerald green skin, is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. WICKED tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the Westand Glinda the Good.

"The defining musical of the decade."

The New York Times

Currently in its 9th year on Broadway, WICKED's North American and International companies have cumulatively grossed over US\$2.5 billion. Since opening at the Gershwin Theatre on Broadway in October 2003, WICKED has regularly broken box office records, grossing more than \$U\$1.6 million a week, and has been seen by nearly 6 million people on Broadway.

"If every musical had the brain, the heart, and the courage of WICKED, Broadway really would be a magical place." Time Magazine

In London, WICKED had the highest weekly gross in West End history (a record WICKED also holds on Broadway, as well as a North American weekly touring record in both the United States and Canada), and in Tokyo and Stuttgart it again set new box office records. After three years **WICKED** completed its tour of Australia this year and has been seen by over 1.5million people – which is equivalent to more than 1 in 20 Australians.

"A breathtaking success story of a magnitude that North America has not witnessed since the peak years of The Phantom of the Opera." Washington Post

Singapore audiences will be treated to unbelievable performances by top-class Australian entertainers. Jemma Rix and Suzie Mathers will play the leading ladies, Elphaba and Glinda. The production will also feature some of Australia's top stage performers, including Bert Newton, Anne Wood, David Harris, Glen Hogstrom, Elisa Colla, and James Smith. "We are very excited for WICKED to premiere at Marina Bay Sands in Singapore and trust that audiences there will embrace it as warmly as those in North America, the U.K., Japan, Germany, Holland, and Australia," said WICKED producers Marc Platt and David Stone. "It is a testament to the show's storytelling power that audiences from around the globe continue to embrace its universal themes."

BASE Entertainment Asia's Managing Director Milan Rokic says "Enthusiasm for the arrival of WICKED to Singapore has been tremendous. This production is a first class event and we welcome its arrival to Singapore. The set of WICKED on the Grand Theater stage at Marina Bay Sands looks spectacular and the cast have been rehearsing hard in Melbourne, so

expect to be wowed by unbelievable performances and dazzled by the thrilling music, the intricate costumes, beautiful lighting and stunning physical production. Get ready Singapore, you are in for a treat."

May Tham, Managing Director of MediaCorpVizPro International says, "Over the years, we have seen a steady growth in the appreciation of and demand for world-class musicals here. WICKED is one such award-winning production that comes with an amazing storyline and stunning settings. We are confident that WICKED will be a resounding success in Singapore."

Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, WICKED features music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (Godspell, Pippin, Academy Award-winner for Pocahontas and The Prince of Egypt) and a book by Winnie Holzman (My So Called Life, Once and Again and thirty something). The production features musical staging by Wayne Cilento and is directed by Lisa Leguillou, based on the original direction by Joe Mantello.

The Singapore Production of WICKED is produced by Marc Platt, David Stone, Universal Pictures, the Araca Group, Jon B. Platt, and John Frost. WICKED is jointly presented by BASE Entertainment Asia and MediacorpVizpro International. WICKED's official sponsors include Canon; Sompo Japan and Tenet Insurance. The Official Series Partner is Prudential and Packaging Partner Showbiz. The Venue Partner is Marina Bay Sands and Media Partners include Official paper and supported by The Straits Times; Official digital partner Asia One; Official Magazine 8 Days; Official TV Station Channel 5; and Official Radio Station Class 95. The Official Ocean Carrier is OOCL and make-up is supplied by M.A.C.

WICKED will send Singapore audiences out of the theater on a high and keep them coming back for more!

For more information go to <u>www.wickedthemuscial.com.sq</u> or join our Facebook page, Wicked The Musical – Singapore for further updates.

Tickets On Sale Now. Don't miss out!

TICKETING INFORMATION

Day/Times	Emerald Reserve	A Reserve	B Reserve	C Reserve	D Reserve	E Reserve
Tues - Frid: 7:30pm Sat - Sun: 1.30pm & 7.30pm	\$250	\$165	\$145	\$125	\$95	\$55

FOR TICKET BOOKINGS:

- THROUGH INTERNET : <u>www.MarinaBaySands.com/Ticketing</u>
- **BY PHONE** : 6688 8826
- BOOK IN PERSON AT : Marina Bay Sands Box Offices (Museum, Theaters, SkyPark, Retail Mall and Hotel Tower
 1 and 3 Lobby)

For more information please log onto our official website <u>www.marinabaysands.com</u>

ABOUT BASE ENTERTAINMENT

BASE Entertainment specializes in the development, production, programming and management of live entertainment properties and theatre operations. BASE develops, produces and manages intellectual properties which reach audiences through various platforms, including live, digital, broadcast and licensing. BASE Entertainment founders include Brian Becker and Scott Zeiger, who have 45 years combined experience in the live entertainment industry. The company has offices in Singapore, New York, Las Vegas, and Houston. Since their Asia office opened in Singapore in 2010, Base Entertainment has brought a wide array of live entertainment to Singapore's Marina Bay Sands' two theaters, including Disney's The Lion King, Riverdance, A R Rahman, Thriller Live, The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cirque EloizeiD, The Bar at Buena Vista, and The Imperial Ice Stars productions of Swan Lake on Ice. BASE is currently the local presenter of **Wicked**.

ABOUT MARINA BAY SANDS

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a casino, Paiza Club for premium players and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances, including world renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit <u>www.marinabaysands.com</u>.

ABOUTMEDIACORP VIZPRO INTERNATIONAL PTE LTD

MediaCorpVizPro International Pte Ltd has more than 10 years of experience in managing and organising many successful entertainment and MICE events. We specialise in Kids & Family musicals, Western & Asian concerts and Dance & Action shows.We have a professional, creative and passionate team of experts who can help you to reach and engage your specific target audience and propel your event into the spotlight. MediaCorpVizPro International also provides a one-stop event management service that includes consultation, conceptualisation and planning, project management and logistics support, creative designand production for event collaterals and integrated marketing and execution.

MediaCorpVizPro International Pte Ltd is a MediaCorp enterprise. MediaCorp is Singapore's leading media company with the most complete range of platforms, spanning television, radio, newspapers, magazines, movies, digital and outof-home media. MediaCorp has over 50 products and brands in four languages (English, Mandarin, Malay and Tamil), including online classifieds, Internet TV-on-demand and High Definition TV broadcast. Winner of numerous international awards and accolades including Asian Television Awards' Terrestrial Broadcaster of the Year, MediaCorp's vision is to become Asia's top media company, delivering valued content to the world.